

Caribbean governments are already diverting scarce resources from education, health, roads, bridges, services to the elderly and the youth in order to boost law enforcement. They recognize two things: (1) their nationals and businesses must be able to feel safe on the streets, stores, offices, factories and homes, and (2) the vital tourism industry can be undermined if visitors stop going to the beautiful destinations because of a fear of crime.

Interestingly, crime and violence aren't always seen by the populace as pressing issues. They barely registered on the political radar screens during recently general election campaigns in the Bahamas, Jamaica and Barbados. But in Trinidad and Tobago where kidnappings and killings drive fear into people's hearts, there are growing calls for the use of capital punishment as something of a deterrent.

Already, the prisons in almost every nation are overcrowded and except for the acquisition of sophisticated equipment, more powerful guns and better training of cops, there is nothing that the countries have not already tried.

Crime has featured prominently at the summits of the region's heads of government and the subject is expected to be raised again.

But the international community must also do its part. Until the United States and Europe in particular address the issue of the demand for illegal narcotics, the Caribbean would remain highly vulnerable. Washington must also re-evaluate its stance at the United Nations and elsewhere on the sale of small arms. The Caribbean isn't a producer or exporter of guns, yet deadly weapons are in the hands of people everywhere. At a time when the U.S. is said to be fighting terrorists at home, most of the guns being used to kill people next door in its neighbors have a made in U.S. label on them.

The world's rich countries can ill-afford to turn a blind eye to the peril caused by the twin evils of guns and drugs.

Of course, the Caribbean must deal with the problem of disaffected poor youths, most of them males, who have seemingly lost their way and have little desire for an education that would enable them to become productive citizens. That's a dangerous trend because in the years ahead, the islands and coastal states would have hundreds of thousands of people who are unprepared for the challenges of life in a highly sophisticated world. That would heighten frustration and can lead to more crime.

Bringing back hanging isn't going to solve anything. The death penalty has never been an effective deterrent to curb crime.

The international community must consider rising crime in developing countries as a global issue that requires financial and other resources. The poorer states too must join hands to tackle the problem.

Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago and Barbados are acting wisely in strengthening their coast guard and other security forces to "choke the influx of drugs, and guns," recognizing that success in a few countries would simply mean the narcotics merchants would find another route to ply their trade.

HONORING PAUL THOMAS MORGAN

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 31, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Paul Thomas Morgan of Lee's Summit, Missouri. Paul is a very special

young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1221, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Paul has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Paul has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Paul Thomas Morgan for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS CAMPAIGN

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 31, 2008

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Human Rights Campaign, defender of civil rights for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people, and force for fundamental fairness and equality for all.

It is with great honor that I recognize this important organization tonight during its fifteenth annual Human Rights Campaign Gala Dinner and Dance. Founded in 1980, Human Rights Campaign initial goal was to support candidates running for Congress who they recognized as unequivocal supporters of civil rights and fairness of all people. Twenty years on, this organization has grown into a national leader in the pro-equality movement. Today, HRC represents over seven hundred thousand members and supporters as the largest national gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender civil rights organization. HRC works in Congress and the private sector to gain necessary protections for GLBT workers as well as to successfully raise this Nation's awareness of the need for protecting everyone's civil rights, regardless of gender and sexual orientation. The Human Rights Campaign has shown its ability to unite diverse communities to strive, lobby and fight for equality for all people.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognizing the Human Rights Campaign, a leader in promoting the rights of all people and as an important force in empowering and inspiring people and communities nation wide.

HONORING JERRY HERRIN RETIREMENT

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 31, 2008

Mr. MARCHANT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Jerry Herrin on the occasion of his retirement as President and Chief Executive Officer of the Grapevine Chamber of Commerce.

Jerry Herrin was born in Arp, Texas in 1939. Mr. Herrin graduated from Arp High School and attended the University of Texas in Aus-

tin. Mr. Herrin is married to Nancy. He has three children: Lisa, Mike, and Brad. He is the proud grandfather of five grandchildren: Jesse, Ashley, Keller, Michael, and Andee.

Jerry Herrin began his distinguished career working on the staff of the Austin Chamber of Commerce from 1963 to 1967. Mr. Herrin took his first job as a Chamber CEO in 1968 at the New Braunfels Chamber of Commerce. Over the years, he has served as president and CEO of numerous Chambers including Conroe, Garland, and Temple.

Jerry Herrin has served as president and CEO of Grapevine Chamber of Commerce since 1985. Mr. Herrin has dedicated himself to the betterment of the Grapevine community promoting area businesses, and supporting growth of new establishments, for over twenty-three years. Under his tenure, Mr. Herrin has secured dedicated members, many who serve on its committees and board of directors.

Jerry Herrin has provided tremendous support for his community and his outstanding leadership is worthy of recognition. I wish Mr. Herrin a happy, healthy retirement, and a well deserved change of pace. It is an honor to represent him in the 24th District of Texas.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF ELIZABETH STINSON

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 31, 2008

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, I rise with great pleasure to honor a visionary, diplomat, activist, and advocate for peace on the occasion of her receipt of the 2008 Jack Green Civil Liberties Award by the American Civil Liberties Union of Sonoma County. Elizabeth Stinson's work with the Peace and Justice Center of Sonoma County and her lifetime dedication to human rights have left an enduring legacy.

In 2001, after several years work with the United Nations, where she still retains a position with the UN's International Indigenous Forum, Elizabeth became director of the Peace and Justice Center, helping those Sonoma County residents who are victims of our Nation's most challenging conflicts.

In Santa Rosa, for example, Elizabeth has mediated inter-gang disputes while leading campaigns to end escalating local violence. In 2002, recognizing the need to provide youth with nonviolent choices, she founded the High School Outreach Peace Education, or HOPE, project to educate them about their rights as students, their rights regarding the military, and service learning and internship opportunities.

In addition, through Elizabeth's coordination with courts in three counties, the Peace and Justice Center was established as an authorized diversion program provider for convicted and at-risk teens and young adults.

Under her direction, the Peace and Justice Center has also gained national attention for supporting troops who need a military separation for reasons such as untreated combat-related trauma, repeated deployments, recruiter misrepresentations, and other compelling mental and physical issues. Since the beginning of the occupation of Iraq 5 years ago, Elizabeth and her team of volunteers at the

center have successfully negotiated 850 administrative discharges.

Elizabeth's work continues to have national effect as she provides counseling support to troops testifying at the Winter Soldier hearings in D.C. At an upcoming GI national retreat, she will conduct training on post-traumatic stress for hotline counselors.

Aside from her lifelong international work for human rights, Elizabeth is mother to three adult children and Sanctuary Mom to five, whose father was executed by death squads after helping to found El Salvador's Human Rights Commission.

Madam Speaker, Elizabeth's commitment to the rights of the vulnerable has rightly earned her the 2008 Jack Green Civil Liberties Award. I am honored to have Elizabeth Stinson as my constituent. I commend her for her work and for the well-deserved award being bestowed on her by the ACLU of Sonoma County.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. GORDON
HOWE

HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 31, 2008

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a living legend in Detroit ice hockey, Mr. Gordon "Gordie" Howe, as he celebrates his 80th birthday today.

Mr. Hockey, as Howe is universally recognized for his greatness on the ice, sprang from humble beginnings. Born in Floral, Saskatchewan, Canada, in the midst of the Great Depression, Howe, who was the fifth of nine children, grew up in poverty and was often sick due to poor nutrition. A significant milestone in Howe's life came at the tender age of 5, when his mother purchased some used belongings from a neighbor, which included his first pair of skates.

Howe immersed himself in hockey, day in and day out, using anything he could find, be it a puck, a tennis ball, or even clumps of dirt. While he didn't make the local youth hockey team, Howe didn't let this discourage him, and worked hard to develop into an excellent skater. During summers, Howe would work with his father at construction sites where the work helped him develop the exceptional strength that would give him one of the hardest shots in hockey. By the time he was 15, Howe was already an imposing 6 feet tall and 200 pounds.

In 1943, Howe was invited by the New York Rangers for a tryout. Howe failed to make the team, but despite this rejection, he was invited to try out for the Detroit Red Wings, where he impressed the coach and general manager Jack Adams. In 1946, at the age of 18, Howe made his National Hockey League debut playing right wing for the Detroit Red Wings. He quickly established himself as a great goal scorer, a gifted playmaker, and a dominating physical presence on the ice. Using his strength and talent, Howe was able to dominate the opposition throughout a career that spanned 5 decades, a feat unmatched by any athlete in any sport.

By the time Howe retired from the Red Wings in 1971, he had led them to four Stanley Cup championships, seven first place finishes, and established the team as a perennial

powerhouse. In addition, Howe was a six-time NHL Most Valuable Player and winner of the scoring title, and was the career leader in games played, goals, assists, and points. In 1973, when his sons Marty and Mark joined the Houston Aeros of the World Hockey Association, they convinced Gordie to fulfill his dream of playing on the professional level with them. After the WHA folded in 1979, Howe joined the Hartford Whalers of the NHL for one final season, helping the team make the playoffs. In 1997, Howe accomplished the last milestone in his storied career when he played professional hockey in a sixth decade. Playing a shift with the Detroit Vipers of the International Hockey League at nearly 70 years old, Howe was greeted by a thundering ovation.

Along with his many achievements on the ice, Howe and his wife Colleen are dedicated to the children of their community and around the world. The Howe Foundation, which they founded in 1993, is dedicated to enriching the lives of those in need.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a fine neighbor, a true Michigan fixture, and the man who made Detroit "Hockeytown," the greatest sports city in the world. I wish him a happy and healthy birthday, and wish him many more to come.

IN HONOR OF THE RETIREMENT
OF COMMANDER GEORGE SHERWOOD

HON. MICHELE BACHMANN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 31, 2008

Mrs. BACHMANN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of the many unsung heroes of our Nation's history, CDR George Sherwood, who will soon retire from an honorable career with the United States Navy.

Commander Sherwood was designated a Naval Aviator in 1985, following graduation from the University of Kansas and completion of flight training in Pensacola, FL, and Corpus Christi, TX. He served in a number of naval air deployments over the next 12 years in California, Texas, Japan, Puerto Rico, Panama, Iceland, and Sicily. He served in a variety of leadership positions, including Plane Commander, Mission Commander, Instructor Pilot, Tactics Officer, Training Officer, and Maintenance Officer.

In 1998, Commander Sherwood reported to the Bureau of Naval Personnel in Arlington, VA. He continued his personnel role as Officer-in-Charge in Dallas, TX. And, Commander Sherwood has spent the final stage of his career as the Naval Attaché with the U.S. Embassy in Baku, Azerbaijan. He has received two Meritorious Service Medals, an Air Medal, three Navy Commendation Medals, four Navy Achievement Medals, and multiple campaign and unit awards.

Commander Sherwood is one of many men and women who have spent their lives in service to their Nation. They do so for love of country and out of a true sense of commitment to the principles of freedom for which America stands. They do so without fanfare and without expectation of gratitude. But, our limitless gratitude is, indeed, what they deserve.

CDR George Sherwood is not only one of those fine men and women in uniform, but also my brother. My family and I are immensely proud of him. And, we thank him for his tireless dedication to our Nation.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE JEWISH
FUND

HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 31, 2008

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Jewish Fund, a charitable organization in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan.

Sinai Hospital began as a clinic opened by Dr. Harry Saltzstein in 1922. In January, 1953, Sinai Hospital opened their doors to give Jewish health care professionals a place to practice and as a central institution for the Jewish community. It was the realization of a dream for Detroit's Jewish community. From there the hospital grew into one of Detroit's top health care institutions.

In 1997, when the Detroit Medical Center purchased Sinai Hospital, it was not the end of that dream, but rather a transformation into another institution of excellence. Established with the proceeds from the sale, the Jewish Fund is an organization designed to perpetuate the Sinai dream through stewardship and innovation. The Fund continues the tradition of assuring excellent and compassionate care for those in need.

The Fund, recognizing the diverse population in Detroit, serves as a resource for the entire community, whether supporting the public health needs or fostering stronger relations with the city. Their role today is vital to many health care initiatives. They have provided over \$35 million in grants for health care over the last 10 years, including \$600,000 in grants for the Jewish Hospice and Chaplaincy Network this year alone.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to recognize the achievements and service of the Jewish Fund. Their contributions to Detroit and the metropolitan area are too great to enumerate, and I wish them many years of continued success.

IN HONOR OF THE NEWLY ELECTED
PRESIDENT OF TAIWAN, DR.
MA YING-JEOU

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 31, 2008

Mr. MARCHANT. Madam Speaker, I join my congressional colleagues in congratulating Dr. Ma Ying-jeou on his victory in Taiwan's recent Presidential election. The election was conducted with fairness and is free of any controversy.

I wish Dr. Ma every success as he leads Taiwan forward in a period filled with many challenges but also filled with many opportunities for Taiwan to prosper and achieve even greater success. I look forward to continuing to grow our relationship with Taiwan under the leadership of the newly elected President Ma.